

Public Hearing – General Budget 2019
November 7, 2018

The Town Board held a Public Hearing on the above date at 7:49 p.m. at the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear comments for/against the Proposed 2019 General Budget.

PRESENT:

Richard Shea	Supervisor
Nancy Montgomery	Councilwoman
John Van Tassel	Councilman
Michael Leonard	Councilman
Robert Flaherty	Councilman
Susan Kenney	Town Comptroller

Town Clerk Merando read the Public Notice.

Supervisor Shea explained that currently the tax levy is at 1.29%, which doesn't represent the 2% tax cap. As far as the tax cap goes, the town has about \$150,000.00 that we are under. He went on to say that there are some areas that he would like to increase, i.e. cemeteries, drug resource coordinator to name a few, while still remaining under the cap.

He then highlighted a few areas that will see adjustments. Building appropriations will be increased as it is used for many different things. This year the Garrison Landing Water District experienced a leak, therefore, there were a lot of unseen expenses.

Supervisor Shea noted that the town is in receipt of the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance's revised budget, however, the board would like to sit down with their accountant to review the proposed budget as there are additional questions that need to be addressed.

Highway and Recreation has basically stayed the same, with minor increases. The Director of Recreation will see a higher pay rate, as she is the lowest paid Director as compared to other municipalities. Amber Stickle has also taken on additional responsibilities.

There is a \$2,500 increase for the Hamilton Fish Library as well as a slight increase for the Town Historian. Supervisor Shea noted that cemeteries are currently at \$17,500, he would like to increase that to \$18,500.

Employee benefits will increase as the town has new employees and retiring employees. When someone retires, their benefits go with them. The debt service line will remain the same, so the town doesn't lose the ability to do capital improvements. There was a brief discussion with regard to getting a builders risk insurance policy all having to do with the proposed renovations to the town hall and the temporary housing of office space. The town is also considering using the American Legion Hall to house offices along with trailers. This decision will be determined at a later date.

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Supervisor Shea then addressed revenue, noting that the largest revenue comes from the mortgage tax. The town will up the projection to 325,000, as it has come in higher than expected the last few years.

Code Enforcement is doing well, permits are on the increase, as well as taking over the Village of Cold Spring's permits. The town is considering contracting out the duties of Fire Marshall, as there is an opportunity to fulfill those duties at a lower rate of pay. He noted that their revenue is covering Code Enforcement operations.

He briefly review the emergency services, and there is a small increase for the ambulance drivers.

There being no further comments from the public, Councilman Flaherty made a motion, seconded by Councilman Leonard to close the Public Hearing at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina M. Merando
Town Clerk